

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
 P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
 County Clerk
 County of: _____

From: (Public Agency): CA Dept. Water Resources
2440 Main Street
Red Bluff, CA 96080

 _____ (Address)

Project Title: Statewide Monitoring Network Modernization - Horse Meadow and Lower Relief Valley Station Upgrades

Project Applicant: California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

Project Location - Specific:
 Stanislaus National Forest, Summit Ranger Dist. (HRS. 38.162286, -119.660186; REL 38.242875, -119. 762953)

Project Location - City: Emigrant Wilderness **Project Location - County:** Tuolumne

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:
 DWR proposes to replace the existing structures at the Horse Meadow (HRS) and Lower Relief Valley (REL) hydrometeorological stations. Installation of the structures would require excavation of a 10ft x 10ft x 18in pit to bury the base of the new structures and a temporary shallow conduit trench. Data gathered would be used for agency decision-making and would be made publicly available through the California Data Exchange Center (CDEC) website.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Water Resources

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Water Resources

Exempt Status: (check one):
 Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
 Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
 Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
 Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15301, 15304, 15306
 Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:
 Replacement of the station structure, soil testing, and temporary excavation of a 3'x3'x3' soil pit and shallow trench that would be backfilled upon completion of soil sensor probe installation qualifies for categorical exemptions 15301 (existing facilities), 15304 (minor alterations of land), and 15306 (information collection) because proposed activities would involve negligible expansion of existing use, would not have a significant effect on the environment, and would result in only temporary, minor ground disturbance.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Brian Humphrey **Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** 530-317-8623

If filed by applicant:
 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
 2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: Brian Humphrey **Date:** 7/30/25 **Title:** Sr. Environmental Scientist

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. **Date Received for filing at OPR:** _____
 Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.